

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Eliot Kleinberg [elbergo@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 3:16 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 10, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Adelstein,

I am writing to let you know that I am angry that cable rates are continuing to rise and I want more control over my cable TV bills. The Federal Communications Commission has said that allowing consumers to choose and pay for only those cable channels they want to watch will save consumers money. Cable companies should adopt this "a la carte" system immediately, and give me more control over what programs come into my home.

Consumers should have more flexibility when it comes to the cable programming that we pay for. Today, the cable companies, not consumers, decide what packages of channels we have to buy. Because of this system, they're able to favor the channels they own. Giving me more choice--either to choose a package or select my own channels--would help break the choke hold cable companies have on programming, and could allow more independent programming to get aired. This "a la carte" system would let me save money and allow me to decide what programming I want to keep out of my home.

Over the past ten years, the average price of expanded basic cable service has increased from just over \$20 to well over \$40 nearly three times the rate of inflation. Today, 98% of consumers can choose from only one cable company and not everyone can get satellite. This lack of competition has hurt consumers and encouraged the industry to lock us into the large packages of channels we don't watch.

I understand the technology already exists to make a cable a la carte system work. While the cable industry is fighting this idea, giving consumers choices is the way most markets work. Imagine Time Warner telling consumers that to buy Time magazine, they also had to buy Time Warner-owned Field & Stream. In the competitive publishing market they couldn't get away with that, but in TV, they make more money by controlling how consumers get cable programming. Bundling lets them squeeze consumers and control content. They may have no incentive to quit unless policymakers step in and get involved.

Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mr. Eliot Kleinberg  
849 S Normandie Ave Apt 505  
Los Angeles, CA 90005-2156

**Angela Boston**

**From:** Heidi Holden [fairmaiden@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 3:15 AM  
**To:** Jonathon Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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Thank you,

Miss Heidi Holden  
319 S B St Apt 7  
Lake Worth, FL 33460-4079

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Marie Balzano [marie.barbera@bbh.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 3:04 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

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Thank you,

Mrs. Marie Balzano  
23 Idolstone Ln  
Matawan, NJ 07747-1733

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Dwayne Duke [duke7077@att.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 3:05 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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Office of the Secretary

Feb 10, 2006

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Thank you,

Mr. Dwayne Duke  
2001 Springhouse Rd SE  
Huntsville, AL 35802-1881

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Donna Sullivan [malibu1968@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 3:04 AM  
**To:** Jonathon Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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Thank you,

Ms. Donna Sullivan  
221 Rock St  
F-2  
Norwood, MA 02062-4967

**Angela Boston**

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**From:** anne hammond [wieb007@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 3:03 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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Feb 10, 2006

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Thank you,

Ms. anne hammond  
5091 Neptune Dr  
Solon, OH 44139-1132

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** George Choitz [ghchoitz@cebridge.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 10, 2006 3:01 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mr. George Choitz  
1206 State St  
Ellsworth, KS 67439-1603

**Angela Boston**

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**From:** Brenda A. [B-[APR - 3 2006](mailto:B-<u>SAVED2@cinci.rr.com</u></a>]<br/><b>Sent:</b> Thursday, February 09, 2006 6:36 PM<br/><b>Cc:</b> KJMWEB; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate<br/><b>Subject:</b> A LA CARTE CABLE</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Sirs, I am ready to disable my dish and call it quits with television programming. There is nothing but movies filled with murder, crimes, gangs, sex, and homosexual behavior, and I dread the search for a clean movie to watch in the evening. I would so much back and endorse a la carte cable, as I would only have to pay for channels I actually watch. Gone would be all the useless music channels, sports channels, spanish channels, and pay channels that continually show and produce smut. I finally would have control over my television and what I feel is appropriate programming for my home. Please work hard at getting the cable companies to give there customers a choice in programming , The thought that I must accept bundles of channels , and actually pay for the filth on half the channels in my bundle makes me sick and ashamed to own a television. Please help thoses of us who care what programming is on our televisions and what we are being forced to accept by cable companies. Sincerely, Brenda Adamson at: [B-SAVED2@cinci.rr.com](mailto:B-<u>SAVED2@cinci.rr.com</u>)

## FCC says a la carte

### cable would save consumers money

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most cable TV subscribers would save money if allowed to pay for only the channels they want, a Federal Communications Commission study said Thursday, reversing the agency's earlier finding that consumers wouldn't benefit.

The analysis by FCC staff provides support for consumer groups and conservatives pushing for a pick-and-choose pricing system to replace the bundled services offered by the cable industry. Cable companies fear that would diminish their wide distribution.

The study gives added ammunition to lawmakers and regulators who see a la carte as a way to clean up raunchy television by giving parents more control over the channels their children watch.

"I am pleased that the commission has concluded tha a la carte offering could reduce consumers' cable bills by as much as 13%," said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who plans to introduce legislation next week to create and promote use of the la carte system.

"The report confirms what I have believed for years — if consumers are allowed to choose the channels their families view then their monthly cable bill will be less," he said.

Senate Commerce Committee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, said if a la carte won't cost consumers more, "I will support an effort to take such an approach, subject to discussions with providers on the downside of such a process."

The industry's main trade group, the National Cable & Telecommunications Association, was quick to point out the downside it sees.

Washington has no place mandating how the industry runs its business, said Kyle McStarrow, the group's president.

"Over the last 25 years, the American free enterprise system created the most diverse video programming on earth with the best value for the customer," he said. "It is disappointing that the updated report relies on assumptions that are not in line with the reality of the marketplace."

Currently, Congress requires cable companies to offer a basic service package that includes local broadcast stations. The companies also offer expanded basic packages that typically include bundles of cable networks such as ESPN and CNN. For HBO, Showtime and other premium services, consumer pay an additional fee.

In Thursday's report, FCC staff said its November 2004 report was wrong to conclude that the average cable household — which watches about 17 channels — would likely face a monthly rate increase of up to 30% under a la carte. It blamed its earlier finding on faulty data from the cable industry.

That 2004 report reasoned that a la carte would drive up cable companies' costs for equipment, customer service and marketing and that would almost certainly be passed on to subscribers.

In fact, consumers could receive as many as 20 channels without seeing an increase in bills, the FCC staff said Thursday.

The latest report also said in most cases subscribers would save 3% to 13% on their bills under a la carte. It noted that earlier assumptions that a la carte would lead consumers to watch two hours less of TV — and thus decrease revenue for cable TV companies and increase costs — lacked factual support.

"In sum, many consumers could be better off," the report said.

The support for a la carte comes as many conservative groups and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have bemoaned the amount of violent and racy programming that children are exposed to on TV.

A la carte would allow cable subscribers to pick and pay for individual channels rather than being forced to buy packages. A parent, for example, could pick Nickelodeon and the Cartoon Network — and not have to take MTV or other channels they may find objectionable as part of a bundled package.

FCC Chairman Kevin Martin, who was named to his post by President Bush last March, has said industry leaders need to give parents more tools to help navigate the hundreds of channels on cable and satellite TV. He has previously criticized the November 2004 FCC report as flawed.

"According to today's report, a careful analysis reveals that a la carte and increased tiering could offer consumers greater choice and the opportunity to lower their bills," Martin said Thursday in a statement.

Consumer groups cheered the latest findings.

"We think this is really going to open up a whole new debate on the benefits of letting consumers pick their own channels on cable television," said Gene Kimmelman, senior director for public policy and advocacy at Consumers Union, which publishes Consumer Reports.

## How to Contact the FCC

### To Contact the Commissioners via E-mail

Chairman Kevin J. Martin: [KJMWEB@fcc.gov](mailto:KJMWEB@fcc.gov)

Commissioner Michael J. Copps: [Michael.Copps@fcc.gov](mailto:Michael.Copps@fcc.gov)

Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein: [Jonathan.Adelstein@fcc.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Adelstein@fcc.gov)

Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate: [Deborah.Tate@fcc.gov](mailto:Deborah.Tate@fcc.gov)

## Angela Boston

---

**From:** patricia shaytomer [jjpattemye@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2006 11:45 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

Feb 5, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Adelstein,

I am writing to let you know that I am angry that cable rates are continuing to rise and I want more control over my cable TV bills. The Federal Communications Commission has said that allowing consumers to choose and pay for only those cable channels they want to watch will save consumers money. Cable companies should adopt this "a la carte" system immediately, and give me more control over what programs come into my home.

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Ms. patricia shaytomer  
10425 Frontier Trl  
Cherry Valley, CA 92223-5425

**From:** Terry Hall [hallt@alpenacc.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2006 6:07 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** la carte cable YES!

APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Adelstein. I just read another article about the possibility of requiring the cable t.v. companies to offer a la carte pricing to allow customers to pay for only those channels that they want to support. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE do whatever you can to make this happen. I am sick and tired of having to support several hundred stations that I don't want in order to receive the two or three that I do want. In essence, I am forced to support points of view I don't agree with and content that I find degrading and offensive in order to be able to get CNN, WGN, and PNS (for Cubs baseball, of course). I would not care if it even cost me more to get only the stations that I want to pay for. It's the principle that I am concerned about. Thanks for listening. TERRY HALL

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Ada Brownell [abrownell77@mchsi.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2006 5:47 PM  
**To:** Undisclosed-Recipient;;  
**Subject:** a la carte TV

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APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

*Wonderful! That's all I can say about the possibility of a la carte TV service. Please strongly encourage cable companies to offer a la carte cable and stop letting them force people who hate smut to subsidize it if they have TV. Let those who want porn pay for it.*

A la carte is the greatest idea since the first cable service was offered. Great work!

Ada Brownell  
Springfield, MO

## Angela Boston

---

**From:** Jonathan Rintels [jonr@creativevoices.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2006 4:40 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** FCC A La Carte Cable Report - Press Release

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APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

The following statement was issued by Jonathan Rintels, Executive Director of the Center for Creative Voices in Media, concerning today's FCC revised report on a la carte delivery of cable and satellite programming.

The Center for Creative Voices in Media praises the FCC and Chairman Kevin J. Martin for its revised report on a la carte cable and satellite programming. We are pleased that the FCC recognized the benefits an a la carte cable and satellite video programming delivery option would provide to consumers and independent, diverse, smaller, and niche cable networks.

Today's bundling system gives Big Media -- the broadcast networks and Big Cable -- a chokehold over America's television programming, restricting consumer choice largely to networks owned by broadcast network owners or large cable operators. As the FCC recognizes, an a la carte option would enable consumers to access a wider diversity of programming from additional sources, full of diverse and competing voices and viewpoints -- and at a lower cost. It will also give consumers the ability to choose to not subscribe to networks on cable and satellite that offend them, eliminating any need for extending broadcast indecency regulations to cable. This will be good not only for creative media artists, but for all Americans.

We look forward to working with the FCC, Chairman Martin, and Senator John McCain on these important issues.

The Center for Creative Voices in Media is a nonprofit formed by creative artists to preserve in America's media the original, independent, and diverse creative voices that enrich our nation's culture and safeguard its democracy. Our Board of Advisors includes many prominent Oscar, Emmy, Tony, Peabody, and other award-winning media artists.

If you have any questions or comments on the above, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Jonathan Rintels  
Center for Creative Voices in Media  
[www.creativevoices.us](http://www.creativevoices.us)  
[www.creativevoices.typepad.com](http://www.creativevoices.typepad.com) (blog)

Center for Creative Voices in Media  
1220 L Street, N.W., Suite 100-494  
Washington, DC 20005

(202) 448-1517 (voice)  
(202) 318-9183 (fax)

[jonr@creativevoices.us](mailto:jonr@creativevoices.us)

To delete your address from this mailing list [click here](#) .

**Angela Boston**

**RECEIVED**

**From:** Debbie Ojala [daojala@110.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 11:58 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 7, 2006

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Ms. Debbie Ojala  
92 Northridge Rd  
Beverly, MA 01915-7006

## Angela Boston

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**From:** Robert Wilkinson [rbwmobile@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 7:35 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
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I understand the technology already exists to make a cable a la carte system work. While the cable industry is fighting this idea, giving consumers choices is the way most markets work. Imagine Time Warner telling consumers that to buy Time magazine, they also had to buy Time Warner-owned Field & Stream. In the competitive publishing market they couldn't get away with that, but in TV, they make more money by controlling how consumers get cable programming. Bundling lets them squeeze consumers and control content. They may have no incentive to quit unless policymakers step in and get involved.

Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mr. Robert Wilkinson  
8512 Cherry Oak Ct  
Mobile, AL 36695-7321

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Penelope Unger [psunger@insightbb.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 4:43 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

RECEIVED

APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 7, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Adelstein,

I am writing to let you know that I am angry that cable rates are continuing to rise and I want more control over my cable TV bills. The Federal Communications Commission has said that allowing consumers to choose and pay for only those cable channels they want to watch will save consumers money. Cable companies should adopt this "a la carte" system immediately, and give me more control over what programs come into my home.

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mrs. Penelope Unger  
PO Box 146  
West Middleton, IN 46995-0146

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Milburn Altvater [e.eddie@lynxconnect.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 2:37 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

RECEIVED

APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 7, 2006

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mr. Milburn Altvater  
282 Jericho Rd  
Linden, VA 22642-5834

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** kathy monroe [skipperella2000@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 12:48 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 7, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mrs. kathy monroe  
131 N Second St  
Hampton, VA 23664-1208

## Angela Boston

---

**From:** Donna Hodsdon-Trips [michelle196102@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 8:56 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 7, 2006

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Ms. Donna Hodsdon-Trips  
PO Box 518  
New Plymouth, ID 83655-0518

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Brian Breeding [registeritem@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2006 4:43 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

RECEIVED

APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 6, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Adelstein,

I am writing to let you know that I am angry that cable rates are continuing to rise and I want more control over my cable TV bills. The Federal Communications Commission has said that allowing consumers to choose and pay for only those cable channels they want to watch will save consumers money. Cable companies should adopt this "a la carte" system immediately, and give me more control over what programs come into my home.

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mr. Brian Breeding  
709 Bow Ln  
Kerrville, TX 78028-3707

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** EDWARD STOCKERT [estockert45@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2006 2:21 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

RECEIVED

APR - 3 2006

Feb 6, 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill. It is all too obvious that Americans are losing their personal freedoms one by one.

Thank you,

Mr. EDWARD STOCKERT  
8575 Schnepfe Dr  
San Diego, CA 92126-1637

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** W. F. Clement [bkqsc@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2006 1:22 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

RECEIVED

APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 6, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Adelstein,

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

W. F. Clement  
152 Kent Oaks Way  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-5608

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** linda hillis [lhillis@ameritech.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2006 1:11 PM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 6, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

linda hillis  
32757 McConnell Ct  
Warren, MI 48092-3161

**Angela Boston**

---

**From:** Caroline Spencer [cclaytonr@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2006 11:58 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Adelstein  
**Subject:** Give me more control over my cable bill

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APR - 3 2006

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

Feb 6, 2006

FCC Commissioner Jonathon Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Adelstein,

I am writing to let you know that I am outraged that cable rates are continuing to rise and the number of providers continues to dwindle! I want more control over my cable TV bills. The Federal Communications Commission has said that allowing consumers to choose and pay for only those cable channels they want to watch will save consumers money. Cable companies should adopt, and FCC should require, this "a la carte" system immediately, giving us more control over what programs come into my home.

Consumers should have more flexibility when it comes to the cable programming that we pay for. Today, my cable provider, Time Warner, not me, decide what packages of channels I have to buy. Because of this system, they're able to favor the channels they own. Giving me more choice--either to choose a package or select my own channels--would help break the choke hold cable companies have on programming, and could allow more independent programming to get aired. This "a la carte" system would let me save money and allow me to decide what programming I want to keep out of my home.

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Please support giving me more control over my cable bill.

Thank you,

Mrs. Caroline Spencer  
121 Mallette St  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516-2531